

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A laundry machine drum having a sheet material skin including an arrangement of a plurality of perforations therethrough, each of one or more of said perforations including:

a shear cut in said sheet material, the sheet being deformed in the region of said shear cut such that the edge of the sheet material of one side of said shear cut is offset from the edge of the sheet material of the other side of said shear cut over at least some of the length of said shear cut such that an opening is formed between said offset edges and the apparent area of said opening is greater when viewed from at least one direction substantially parallel to the general plane of said drum skin in the region of said perforation than when viewed from a direction substantially perpendicular to the general plane of said drum skin in said region of said perforation.

2. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 1 wherein said deformed sheet material the material of one said side of said shear cut is displaced outward from the material of the other side of said shear cut relative to the intended spin axis of said drum, but the planar orientation of said regions immediately adjacent the edges of said regions at said shear cut are parallel to one another.

3. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 2 wherein said drum includes at least one group of two or more said perforations, said group defined by their proximity to one another, said openings of said group of perforations facing a common centre.

4. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 1 wherein said drum includes at least one group of two or more said perforations, said group defined by their proximity to one another, said openings of said group of perforations facing a common centre.

5. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in any one of claims 1 to claim 3 wherein at least one said drum perforation is located within a dish in the drum skin extending outwardly relative to the drum spin axis.

6. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 4 wherein said group of drum perforations is located within a dish in the drum skin extending outwardly relative to the drum spin axis.

7. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 6 wherein said dish includes two said perforations opposingly oriented to one another such that the shear cuts thereof are parallel and a bridge of material is defined by said parallel cuts.

8. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 7 wherein said bridge of material is spaced outwardly further than the remaining material of said dish or dimple relative to said drum spin axis.

9. (Original) A laundry machine drum as claimed in claim 7 wherein said bridge of material is spaced inwardly further than the remaining material of said dish or dimple relative to said drum spin axis.

Claims 10-16 (Cancelled)

17. (Original) A laundry machine drum having a sheet material skin including an arrangement of a plurality of openings therethrough, at least one said openings having a form such that the apparent area of said opening is greater when viewed from at least one direction substantially parallel to the general plane of said drum skin in the region of said perforation than when viewed from a direction substantially perpendicular to the general plane of said drum skin in said region of said perforation.